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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

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Application of :
Kenji KATO et al. :
Serial No. 09/582,903 : Technology Center 2651
Filed: August 11, 2000 : Examiner - Kim Chu
For: NEAR-FIELD OPTICAL HEAD :
AND METHOD FOR MANU- :
FACTURING SAME : Docket No. S004-4034 (PCT)

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER PATENT RULES 97 AND 98

S I R:

Applicants submit this information disclosure statement pursuant to 37 CFR §§1.97 and 1.98.

The present application was filed more than three months prior to the filing of this statement. However, as of the date of filing of this statement, neither a final action under 37 CFR §1.113 nor a notice of allowance under 37 CFR §1.311 has been mailed in this application. Accordingly, this information disclosure statement is being filed under 37 CFR §1.97(c) and is accompanied by the following 37 CFR §1.97(e) certification:

MAILING CERTIFICATE ON PAGE 3

Rule 97(e) Certification

Applicants' undersigned attorney, pursuant to 37 CFR §1.97(e), hereby certifies that each item of information disclosed herein was cited in a Search Report of a foreign Patent Office in applicants' counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of this information disclosure statement.

Information Disclosure Statement

Pursuant to 37 CFR §1.98, a list of patents, publications or other information submitted for consideration by the PTO is provided on annexed Form PTO-1449. A legible copy of each item of information listed on the Form is submitted herewith. Also submitted is a copy of the Search Report which cited each item of information.

As to each item of information, if any, which is not in the English language, a concise explanation of the relevance thereof pursuant to 37 CFR §1.98(a)(3) is given in the Search Report which cited the information.

Consideration of this information disclosure
statement is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

ADAMS & WILKS
Attorneys for Applicants

By: 

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MAILING CERTIFICATE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first-class mail in an envelope addressed to: MS DD, COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on the date indicated below.

Debra Buonincontri

Name

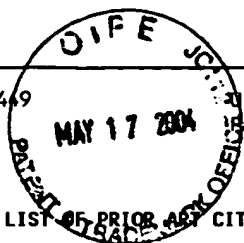
Debra Buonincontri

Signature

May 13, 2004

Date

FORM PTO-1449

U.S. DEPARTMENT OF COMMERCE
PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

LIST OF PRIOR ART CITED BY APPLICANT

ATTY. DOCKET NO.

S004-4034(PCT)

SERIAL NO.

09/582,903

APPLICANT

Kenji KATO et al.

FILING DATE

August 11, 2000

GROUP

2872

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		DOCUMENT NO.							DATE	NAME	CLASS	SUBCLASS	FILING DATE IF APPROPRIATE
	AA	5	7	7	0	8	5	6	6/23/1998	FILLARD et al.	250	234	
	AB	5	7	6	7	8	9	1	6/16/1998	HIROKANE et al.	347	258	
	AC	4	6	8	4	2	0	6	8/4/1987	BEDNORZ et al.	350	96.12	
	AD												
	AE												
	AF												
	AG												
	AH												
	AI												
	AJ												
	AK												

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FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS

*		DOCUMENT NO.							DATE	COUNTRY	CLASS	SUBCLASS	TRANSLATION	
													YES	NO
	AL	0	5	4	9	2	3	6	6/30/1993	EUROPE	--	--	n.a.	n.a.
	AM	0	8	6	0	7	2	6	8/26/1998	EUROPE	--	--	n.a.	n.a.
	AN													
	AO													
	AP													
	AQ													

OTHER REFERENCES (Including Author, Title, Date, Pertinent Pages, Etc.)

	AR	
	AS	
	AT	

EXAMINER:

DATE CONSIDERED:

* EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include a copy of this form with next communication to applicant.